



This simple chart explains some of the background information about the workings of the BFI in Canada and in Ontario in particular. It reflects a small part of the discussions held at the BFION Assessment Committee “Talk To An Assessor” teleconference forum held February 5<sup>th</sup> 2014.

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## BFI Designation Process

- The Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) is a Global WHO/UNICEF Initiative (1991)
- BFHI is called the 'Baby-Friendly Initiative' in Canada to emphasise that it is not only for hospitals.
- The BCC is the national authority for the BFHI in Canada
- The BFI designation process is carried out by the BCC Assessment Committee\*

\*The BFION has a subcommittee consisting of national assessors and this subcommittee works directly with the BCC to carry out the assessment processes in Ontario.

## BFI Implementation Process

- BFHI in Industrialized Countries is a forum for the sharing of strategies and to provide peer learning at the international level.
- The implementation of BFI is done at national level by the BCC Provincial/Territorial Committee which has two representatives from each P/T
- The Baby-Friendly Initiative in Ontario (BFION) is the ON provincial authority for the BFI and the co-chairs of this organization are the representatives to the BCC P/T Committee.
- Two subcommittees of the BFION provide support for facilities in a community of practice style - in effect a form of peer support for the sharing of resources and experiences. (BFI in CHS and BFI in Hospital groups)
- Since 2011 MOHLTC, Health Promotion Division (HPD), requires public health units to report twice a year on their BFI status. As part of the Healthy Kids Strategy implementation, Toronto East General Hospital is leading the delivery of provincially coordinated supports, resources and training to assist hospitals and community health organizations in achieving BFI designation.